~~VDO~~ Adolf Schindling AG          Rüsselsheimer Str. 22
                                     60326 Frankfurt
                                     K46-R/GR-mh
                                     ~~3438~~

Hle Clmm
~~Patent claims~~

5   1.      A method for the determination of combustion
misfires in an internal combustion engine having a
plurality of cylinders, wherein at least two successive
compression times and expansion times are determined
for at least one cylinder of the internal combustion
10  engine, for the determination of combustion misfires a
comparison of the change in the compression times with
the change in the expansion times being carried out,
and the result of the comparison being a measure of a
combustion misfire.

15  2.      The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
method is carried out as function of predeterminable
parameters of the internal combustion engine and/or of
predeterminable ambient parameters of the internal
combustion engine.

20  3.      The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ the
method being carried out for each cylinder of the
internal combustion engine.          Clum )

4.      The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 3,~~
wherein, after the detection of at least one combustion
25  misfire, in particular after a predeterminable number
of combustion misfires, a fault signal is generated and
emitted.                      Claim )

5.      The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding
claims,~~ wherein a threshold value for the measure of a
30  combustion misfire is formed at least as a function of
at least one parameter of the internal combustion
engine, no fault signal being generated if the
comparison result exceeds or falls short of this
threshold value.

6.      The method as claimed ~~in one of the preceding claims,~~ *claim 1* wherein the method is not carried out in the case of a deviation from permissible value ranges for the predeterminable parameters of the internal
5   combustion engine and/or for the predeterminable ambient parameters of the internal combustion engine.

7.      The method as claimed ~~in one of the preceding claims,~~ *claim 1* used in an on-board diagnostic device at least for the internal combustion engine driving a vehicle,
10  in particular a passenger vehicle.